
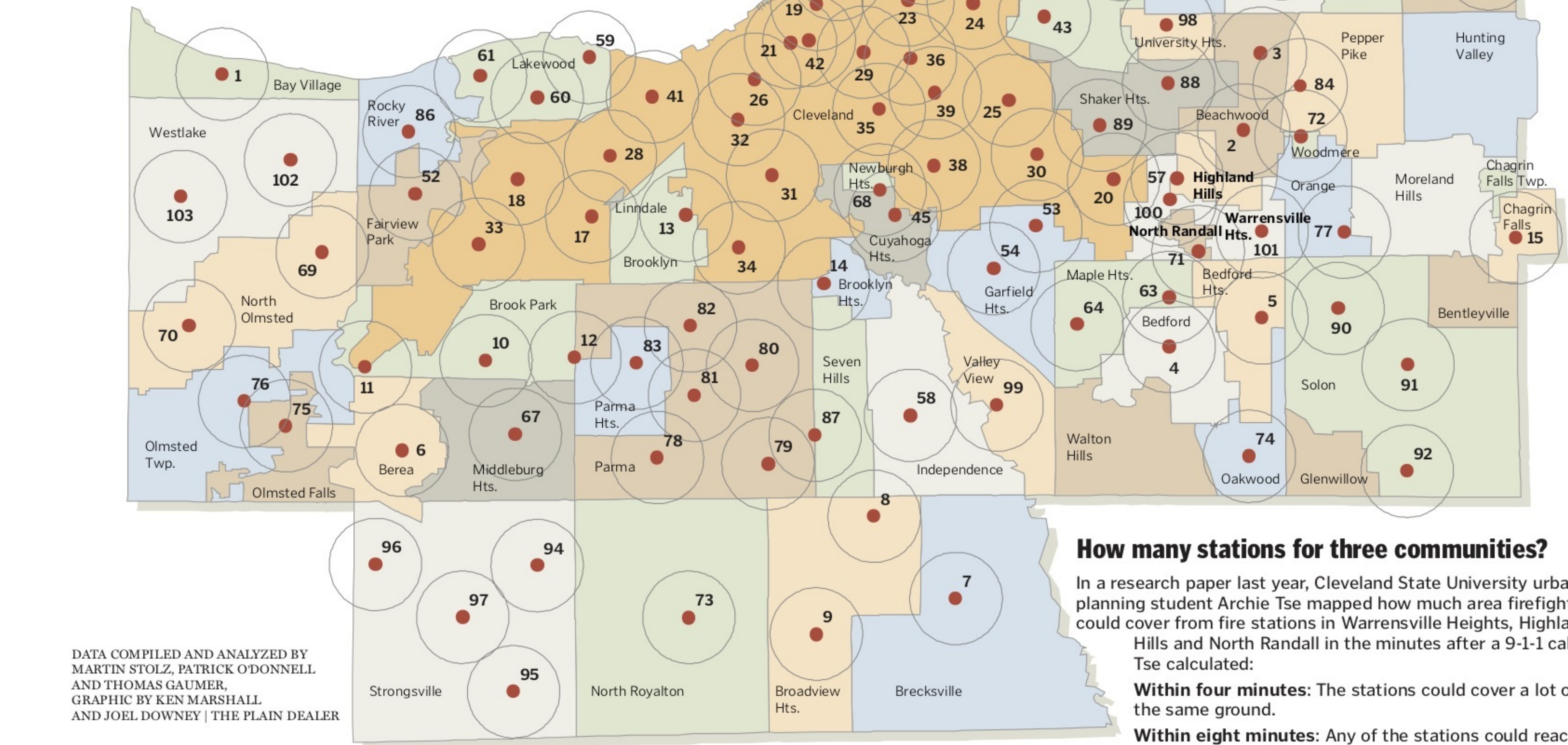


# Where's the fire [station]?

Cuyahoga County is home to 51 municipal fire departments with 103 fire stations. This map and accompanying chart show that most stations have potentially overlapping service areas, but each department operates independently of its neighbors. The combined cost to taxpayers is more than \$200 million. What's wrong with that picture? Some leaders say that it shows needless and costly duplication and offers a compelling reason to consolidate all of the departments into one.

 Fire station location and area within one mile of the station.  
(Number refers to station on the chart below.)



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Fire department	Population protected	Locations on map	Firefighters		Ladder trucks	Pumper trucks	Department budget, 2002	ISO*
			Full-time	Part-time				
Bay Village	16,087	1	26	0	1	2	\$1,634,881	5
Beachwood	12,186	2-3	41	1	1	2	\$3,807,309	4
Bedford	14,214	4	30	0	1	2	\$2,260,125	4
Bedford Heights	11,375	5	28	0	1	2	\$2,171,811	5
Berea	18,970	6	23	0	1	2	\$1,599,956	5
Brecksville	13,382	7	14	22	1	2	\$2,002,385	5
Broadview Heights	15,967	8-9	17	15	2	2	\$1,796,981	6
Brook Park	21,218	10-12	40	0	1	4	\$3,081,342	4
Brooklyn	11,586	13	30	8	1	3	\$2,335,012	3
Brooklyn Heights	1,558	14	0	26	1	2	\$482,543	6
Chagrin Falls	9,139	15	4	24	1	2	\$900,000	5
Cleveland	479,857	16-42	990	0	12	24	\$81,648,324	3
Cleveland Heights	49,958	43-44	78	0	2	2	\$6,395,574	2
Cuyahoga Heights	599	45	27	0	1	2	\$2,376,196	4
East Cleveland	27,217	46-47	52	0	1	3	\$3,847,615	4
Euclid	52,717	48-51	80	0	2	4	\$7,207,295	3
Fairview Park	17,572	52	29	0	1	2	\$1,614,832	4
Garfield Heights	30,734	53-54	46	0	2	1	\$3,775,557	4
Gates Mills**	2,493	55	0	1	0	3	\$79,536	6/9
Highland Heights	8,082	56	18	14	0	2	\$1,529,939	4
Highland Hills	1,618	57	1	21	1	1	\$193,808	6
Independence	7,109	58	26	9	1	3	\$2,395,959	6
Lakewood	56,646	59-61	79	0	2	3	\$5,284,665	3
Lyndhurst	15,279	62	26	0	1	1	\$2,078,675	4
Maple Heights	27,356	63-64	43	0	1	2	\$3,480,152	4
Mayfield Heights	19,386	65	33	0	1	2	\$2,734,998	4
Mayfield	3,435	66	7	20	1	2	\$1,425,735	5
Middleburg Heights	15,542	67	25	0	1	2	\$2,537,230	5
Newburgh Heights**	2,389	68	0	2	1	1	\$128,182	5
North Olmsted	34,113	69-70	46	0	1	2	\$4,874,254	4
North Randall	906	71	0	33	1	1	\$207,775	6
North Royalton	28,648	73	29	0	0	4	\$2,798,000	6
Oakwood	4,867	74	1	46	1	2	\$661,934	5
Olmsted Falls	7,962	75	7	23	1	1	\$961,698	5
Olmsted Twp.	10,575	76	19	0	1	1	\$1,017,046	5/9
Orange	3,236	77	0	37	0	2	\$426,224	4/9
Parma	85,655	78-82	102	0	1	4	\$8,596,000	3
Parma Heights	21,659	83	30	0	1	2	\$2,753,909	4
Pepper Pike	6,040	84	14	15	0	2	\$1,524,085	5
Richmond Heights	10,944	85	17	15	1	1	\$1,828,501	4
Rocky River	20,735	86	30	0	1	1	\$2,785,317	4
Seven Hills	12,080	87	0	35	0	3	\$527,309	4
Shaker Heights	29,405	88-89	65	0	1	2	\$6,377,112	3
Solon	22,251	90-92	60	0	1	3	\$4,743,799	4
South Euclid	23,537	93	32	0	1	1	\$2,581,000	4
Strongsville	43,858	94-97	56	0	2	3	\$4,693,159	4
University Heights	14,146	98	29	0	1	1	\$2,554,123	4
Valley View	2,179	99	12	20	0	2	\$1,129,403	4
Warrensville Heights	15,109	100-101	32	0	1	2	\$2,906,000	4
Westlake	31,719	102-103	37	1	2	2	\$3,729,442	4
Woodmere	828	72	0	26	1	1	\$232,165	6/9
TOTALS	1,394,123		2,405	414	62	128	\$208,714,872	

\*The private Insurance Services Office's fire risk score is used to set homeowner insurance rates. The lower the number, the better the rating. Four communities have split ratings, meaning that some neighborhoods have greater fire risk than others.  
\*\*Volunteer department  
Cleveland, Chagrin Falls, Maple Heights, Oakwood and Solon cover some neighboring communities. List does not include departments at Cleveland Hopkins International and Burke Lakefront airports.  
SOURCES: The departments

## Burning questions | A REGION DIVIDED

### How many stations for three communities?

In a research paper last year, Cleveland State University urban planning student Archie Tse mapped how much area firefighters could cover from fire stations in Warrensville Heights, Highland Hills and North Randall in the minutes after a 9-1-1 call. Tse calculated:

**Within four minutes:** The stations could cover a lot of the same ground.

**Within eight minutes:** Any of the stations could reach any residence within the three communities.

"If the three towns wanted to save money and pool their resources into a single station, the station at North Randall would serve them best," Tse concluded.

